

Film by **Abel Ferrara**

THE PROJECTIONIST



**The Projectionist is a look back at the
cinema of the 70's, 80's and 90's as seen
through the life of Nicolas Nicolaou, one of
NYC's last independent theater owners.**

CINEMAS



SYNOPSIS



Director Abel Ferrara (Bad Lieutenant, King of New York) traces the life and work of friend and fellow cinephile Nicolas "Nick" Nicolaou, a Cypriot immigrant who began working as a teenager in small neighborhood movie theaters around Manhattan, defying gentrification, changing viewing habits and

corporate dominance in the 1980's, only to emerge decades later as one of New York City's last independent theater owners. A moving tribute to friendship, tenacity and movie love, The Projectionists also a timely paean to what going to the movies is all about.



THE WIDE WORLD OF PETER RABBIT

THE WIDE WORLD OF PETER RABBIT
JUNGLE

LYRICAL

VICTORY

BIG 3 SEAT
THE WIDE

SHAOLIN D.
SHAOLI
MARVELOU

3 BIG HITS

WELCOME
TO EXCITING THEATRES
GREATEST MOVIES IN USA

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

When I met Nick 2 years ago through my producer Christos, I immediately felt a bond with him. We are both survivors and, in a way, we both came up on opposite ends of the film business at the same time. Around 1975, while I was standing in line at the cinema on 59th and 3rd to have my mind blown by *A Clockwork Orange*, Fellini's *Satyricon*, Ken Russel's *The Devils*, Nick was likely in the same theater as a young kid usher working his way up. We continued on parallel paths through the action grindhouse era when 42nd Street ruled with wall to wall movie houses. When we met and he explained the journey of his life in his inimitable South Mediterranean style, his story stuck a chord in me. I knew immediately that I wanted to share it.





This film is a documentary but it's also history. After getting deep into the making of it, I realized that it was also about Nick's heart and his passion for the movie experience. It's been said that a film does not exist without an audience and the theatre is where the miracle happens- where the filmmaker and the audience come together to create "the movies." The beauty of Nick is that he understands the importance of this. Cinema Village in New York is one of the great independent cinemas of the world, and it's continued existence is all thanks to him.

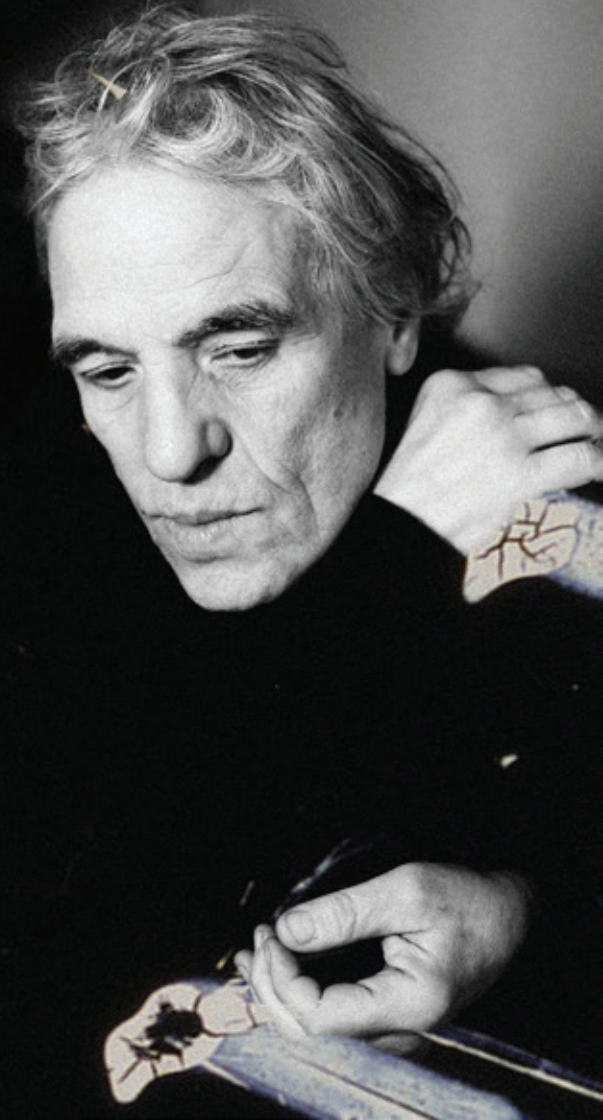
Nick and his dear friend Sal, who is 88 years old and also featured in this film, both started in the business as kids. While everyone else was off to World War 2, kids like Sal stepped up and kept the theaters alive-booking films, keeping the snack bar rolling, tearing tickets and doing the many other infinite number of things it takes to keep people coming to the movies. I am forever grateful to them for doing so.

I could talk forever about Nick and our modest little documentary and am excited that it will premiere at Tribeca Film Festival in New York City, a very fitting place for both of us.



DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Born in the Bronx in 1951, Ferrara started making Super-8 films as a teenager. In the mid-70's, he moved downtown to make *Driller Killer*, *Ms. 45*, and later, *Bad Lieutenant* and *The Addiction* among others. He recently wrapped *Tommaso* with Willem Dafoe and is working on his new film, *Siberia*.



SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

2019 The Projectionist

2017 Alive in France (documentary)

2014 Pasolini

2014 Welcome to New York

2011 4:44 - Last Day on Earth

2009 Napoli, Napoli, Napoli

2008 Chelsea on the Rocks (documentary)

2007 Go Go Tales

2005 Mary

2001 R XMas

1998 New Rose Hotel

1997 The Blackout

1996 The Funeral

1995 The Addiction

1993 Dangerous Game

1993 Body Snatchers

1992 Bad Lieutenant

1990 The King of New York

1987 China Girl

1984 Fear City

1981 Ms. 45

1979 Driller Killer

ABOUT NICK



Nicolas “Nick” Nicolaou is a New York City original, a Cypriot immigrant who moved to America as a young boy and found work as a teenager in Manhattan during the heyday of independent motion picture exhibition in the 1970’s — when dozens of theaters, including art houses, grind houses and porn palaces, glittered prominently across the urban landscape. Defiant in the face of gentrification, corporate dominance and changing viewing habits, the Queens-based Nicolaou became a theater owner in the ‘80s as the number of screens in the city began a precipitous decline. Four decades on, the tenacious entrepreneur operates three very distinct neighborhood theaters: Manhattan’s Cinema Village, Bay Ridge’s Alpine Cinemas and Forest Hills’ Cinemart, beloved destinations for generations of moviegoers.

MAIN CREW

Director

Abel Ferrara

Cinematographer

Ken Kelsch

Additional Photography

Sean Price Williams

Composer

Joe Delia

Editor

Fabio Nunziata

Producers:

Christos V. Konstantakopoulos,
Michael M. Bilandic, Joshua Blum,
Katie Stern, Michael Weber



THE PROJECTIONIST

FALIRO HOUSE PRESENTS A **WASHINGTON SQUARE FILMS** PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH **THE MATCH FACTORY**

A FILM BY ABEL FERRARA "THE PROJECTIONIST"

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY KEN KELSCH **ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY BY SEAN PRICE WILLIAMS** **ORIGINAL MUSIC BY JOE DELIA** **EDITOR FABIO NUNZIATA**

PRODUCED BY CHRISTOS V. KONSTANTAKOPOULOS **MICHAEL M. BILANDIC** **JOSHUA BLUM** **KATIE STERN** **MICHAEL WEBER**

DIRECTED BY ABEL FERRARA

**FALIRO
HOUSE**



THE MATCH FACTORY

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Original title The Projectionist

International title The Projectionist

Duration 81 min

Aspect Ratio 1.78:1

Format (2K/4K) HD

Sound 5.1

Year 2019

Original Language English and Greek

Countries of Production USA, Greece

Production Companies Faliro House and Washington Square Films

In Association with The Match Factory



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